

# Sultans Suggest States Federation

Ipo:—A proposal that as an alternative to the formation of the Malayan Union, a federation of all the Malay States with a central body to control matters of common interest, is suggested by the Sultan of Perak on behalf of the Sultans of Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Kedah in a cablegram dispatched yesterday to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Sultans have requested His Majesty's Government to agree to a delay of six months for

inquiries and further consideration.

It is also suggested that a High Commissioner be appointed instead of a Governor.

The dispatch also advocates local autonomy for each State.

A copy of the cable has been forwarded to His Highness the Sultan of Johore who is now in Grosvenor House, London.

Malay Rulers have been invited to the swearing in ceremony of the new Governor on April 1 at Kuala Lumpur.

## PERSIAN ISSUE SETTLED?

London, Mar. 25.—As delegates of the member nations of the United Nations Security Council met in New York this afternoon, the British Charge D'Affaires in Teheran, Mr. H.L. Farquhar, was trying to confirm reports that Soviet evacuation of Persia was in progress and whether general agreement had been reached between the Soviet and Persian Governments.

There was still no information in London on either of these points, writes Reuter's diplomatic correspondent, nor was there any reply to the British note sent to the Soviet Government on March 3, asking why Soviet troops had not been withdrawn from Persia.

It was officially pointed out, adds our correspondent, that Britain's anxiety over the Persian dispute relates both

### IMPERIAL PREFERENCES

## Unlikely To Be Relinquished

Capetown, Mar. 25.—Field Marshal Jan Smuts, South African Prime Minister, told the Union Assembly he saw no danger that imperial preferences might have to be relinquished unless there was sufficient compensation to make the surrender worthwhile.

Questioned about the conference of Commonwealth Prime Ministers to be held in London in May, he said that representatives of Commonwealth nations — probably officials — would have preliminary talks on preferences and tariffs before the conference on international trade to be held in the United States.

"It is not in the least likely," he said, "that the Deming will be called on to bolster up British economy at the expense of their own."

Effort would now be made not to abolish tariffs but to lower them.

In reference to immigration Smuts said that where she could, South Africa would absorb artisans and technical experts in developing industry but at present her capacity was very limited. After the demobilised have been fully provided for she would encourage "the right type of immigrants."—Reuter.

### S.A. LAND BILL

Capetown, Mar. 25.—In the House of Assembly this morning, Field Marshal Smuts moved the second reading of the Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Bill. The public galleries were filled and among those present were the High Commissioner for India and Administrator of Natal.—Reuter.

### HUNGER STRIKE

Bombay, Mar. 25.—About 200 policemen have gone on hunger strike at Gorakhpur in the United Provinces, as a

protest against the danger that Persia may have been forced to negotiate with Moscow under pressure and to the failure to withdraw troops on March 2, last, as laid down in the 1942 treaty.

The British and United States delegates at the UNO Council's new session are expected to demand a report of the negotiations between Russia and Persia which led to the start of the Red Army evacuation reported by Moscow Radio last night.

Political observers in London interpret the Soviet withdrawal decision to mean that the Soviet-Persian dispute has been settled out of court. They believe the Persian Government has agreed to meet the substance of the Soviet demands. If therefore, the subject is debated at the Security Council meeting in New York, it will be more a matter of form.

Reports circulating in foreign circles in Moscow today cables Reuter's correspondent, Eric Downton said that the Persian Government has agreed to recognise the regional autonomy of Soviet occupied Persian Azerbaijan, and to remove a number of "reactionaries" from office. The Persian Government was also said to be revising its policy regarding oil concessions to foreign Powers.

No confirmation of these reports was available in official Soviet quarters, but an American broadcast from Moscow made this comment. "It is believed that Persian policy towards oil concessions may be revised in a way which will reassure Soviet concern over the Baku and Turkmen oil fields and possibly more than that."

### DISCUSSION POSTPONED?

New York, Mar. 25.—It is reported that heads of the delegations attending the United Nations Security Council meeting, have agreed to postpone discussion of the Russo-Persian dispute for 24 hours.—Reuter.

### CRIMES INVESTIGATION

Rangoon, Mar. 25.—War crimes investigation teams will tour the various districts in Burma, collecting evidence against Japanese guilty of war crimes during the occupation.

## Nehru On Future Of Asia

Taiping, Monday.—"Only an independent India with a fully representative national government could tackle the problem of famine in India. The present Government of India has shown itself incapable of tackling this problem," said Pandit Nehru, when he addressed 10,000 Taining citizens at the Circus Padang yesterday.

On mounting the rostrum he was garlanded on behalf of all communities and later received bouquets from three flower girls representing the Indian, Chinese and Malay communities.

He thanked the people for the welcome accorded him. He said that he had come here in the midst of two great problems facing India today.

# The Malaya Tribune

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE PEOPLE OF MALAYA

10 CENTS

IPOH, TUESDAY MARCH 26, 1946

10 CENTS

## Extremists Burn Big Section Of Bandoeng

# British Forces Enter Charred City

Batavia, Mar. 25.—British Troops late this afternoon had nearly completed encirclement of the black and burning southern part of Bandoeng, Java's pre-war summer capital, a considerable section of which was set on fire last night by Indonesian extremists.

Carrying out the orders of Lieut.-Gen. Sir Montague Stopford, Allied Commander-in-Chief in Java, who had already protested against the "senseless mortaring, sniping and incendiary" by irresponsible parties, they took up their positions without firing a shot.

A spokesman at the Allied Headquarters in Batavia said today that troops of the 23rd Indian Division, veterans of the triumphal Burma campaign who suffered heavy casualties in the Sourabaya fighting, advancing into the charred and smouldering kampongs of the suburbs, found a great crater and beside it the bodies of two Japanese sergeant majors killed by an explosion.

What these Japanese gave

their lives to destroy is a mystery, but Allied Headquarters are satisfied that numbers of Japanese in Bandoeng area were closely associated with Indonesian extremists in their attacks on British forces.

All Indonesian forces had pulled out of Bandoeng by 11 a.m. (local time) today, the Netherlands News Agency reported. Indonesian Republican circles blame last night's fires, said to have been at least 16 in number and accompanied by explosions, chiefly on the fact that the British had refused the Indonesian request for postponement of the Indonesian withdrawal. Because of this refusal, the Indonesian Army was unable "to calm the population." They said the fires started just before midnight—the deadline set by Lieut.-Gen. Stopford for Indonesian forces to withdraw from the southern part of the city or lay down their arms.

Crowds of people were seen streaming out of town along roads leading south and, what appeared to be Japanese armoured troops carrier filled with Japanese, was also seen leaving the town, said an official statement issued later.—Reuter.

## Governor - Designate En route To S'pore

Hurn, (Hampshire), Mar. 25.—Sir Edward Gent, Governor - Designate of the Malayan Union, left Hurn Aerodrome today by a British Overseas Airways Corporation aircraft for Calcutta.

Formerly Assistant Under-Secretary of State in the Colonial Office, he will take up his duties on April 1, when the new Malayan Union comes into operation.—Reuter.

## Death Of Bishop Hitler Feared

Muenster, Germany, Mar. 25.—Cardinal Count von Galen, Roman Catholic Bishop of Muenster who was recently invested with the Red Hat by the Pope, died here at the age of 68. Von Galen became world famous during the war for his denunciation of Nazism.

"British bombs are better for Germany than Nazism," he said in October 1941. Later it was reported that Hitler wanted to shoot von Galen but was warned of the disastrous effect this would have on Roman Catholics in the German Army.—Reuter.

## Lord Pethick Confident Of Success

New Delhi, Mar. 25.—The three members of the British Cabinet Mission to India, Lord Pethick Lawrence, Secretary of State for India, Sir Stafford Cripps, President of the Board of Trade, and Mr. A.V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, started their task early today with a long conference with the Viceroy, Field Marshal Lord Wavell.

The British Mission are holding their first press conference in New Delhi's Council House today with several hundred newspapermen from all over the world.

Lord Pethick Lawrence told the press conference that dis-



SIR G. S. BAJPAI

Washington, Mar. 25.—Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai, Agent General for India, warned the UNRRA conference in Atlantic City that five to 15 million people in India may die of starvation if India's requirements of cereals—4,000,000 tons—are not met.—Reuter.

## Three Propositions

London, March 24.—High authoritative sources intimated on Sunday that the present Cabinet mission to India would seek a compromise and settlement, entailing the co-ordination of three divergent propositions, writes United Press representative Harold Guard.

The propositions are: first, Indianisation of the Viceroy's Council with maximum power to establish a constitution body in order to devise a government of dominion calibre; second, formation of an interim national government representing the central and provincial legislatures which would be called the All-India Constitutional Assembly; three, establishment of two constitution-making bodies one for Pakistan and one for Hindustan.

These sources said that the co-ordination of this hypothetical scheme would entail "super-federation" or confederacy. The revival of Sir Stafford Cripps' ideal of an international commission, established boundaries, safe-

### SPANISH BORDER

## Respons Disclaim

Madrid, Mar. 25.—responsibility in the event of an incident that may be claimed by Spain.

Such was the reached during a meeting held here in the presidency of Gen. Franco it is under well-informed circles.

The cabinet French-Spanish relations decided to sound a note in view of the taken by certain French public opinion even members of the Government toward

Political circles lared the Spanish ment has reason to the French comm preparing to stage on the frontier between France with the chance of exiled These provoked would form an ex request by the French armed intervention reign power to hel against Spain."

All Spanish par reproduced a recent the Paris daily "I signed by 'Bicard' this theory was put on lines that the French Communist Party will unless an excuse found for an incident in which Ru can be called in.—E

## 'Fantasti Specula

Washington, Ma White House denied neralissimo Stalin's ment of the Unite and President Harry man's postponemen Pacific atom test w way connected.

Charles G. Ross, Truman's Press said the postponement "no sudden decision ralissimo Stalin's ment of the UNO "no surprise" to th ent who knew all a that was exactly Russian leader felt.

Refusing to take responsibility for the w speculation mounting to bewilderment responsible quarte the decision to c Bikini atoll manoeu another six weeks anded it "largely 1 —Reuter.

## Troops To Middle F

London, Mar. 25.—opinion focussed at the Levant as Paris ed that an agreeen been reached betw French and Leban ernments for withd all French troops banon.

British troops are leave by June. "The peoples of and Syria insist on immediate and sin evacuation of their by British and Frenc declared Lutskey, Middle East expert, cow Radio.

The peoples of th had waged a str liberation ever since world war, Lutskey added that "at the the acute struggle France and Britain dominance in the L the geographical it of these territories bases and centres o air communications —E

## Gen. Mikhail Capture

London, March 2 ral Drazza Mikhailovitch Yucoslay Ministe is now in the hand Yugoslav Governme ding to Belgrade P neral Alexander R Minister of the Int



## Malaya Tribune

Ipoh, Tuesday, March 26, 1946

## Food &amp; Politics

THE news from Washington that Argentina is allowing political considerations to influence allocations of exportable surpluses of foodstuffs is a matter upon which it is difficult to comment with dignity and restraint. The essential and humanitarian work of the Combined Food Board is stated to have run into a "severe deadlock" on the question of a programme of world wheat distribution to the famine threatened populations of Europe and Asia. "It is understood" that the deadlock is due to Argentina's refusal to reduce its shipments to Spain and other countries not severely affected by the world crisis. The reason for the Republic's attitude is stated to be political.

In plain English, shorn of all redundancy, this means that so far as Argentina is concerned, millions in India and China and in some European countries, the victims of war's devastating holocaust, may die, while the bestial and corrupt Axis-spawned administration of Franco is bolstered. It is not even as if Spain's claim were equal to that of the other countries affected. No question of the interest of the people concerned can be involved. It is purely a case of economic warfare based on exploitation of starvation. This is precisely the weapon used by General Franco (now branded untouchable by the United Nations) against loyalist elements in Spain during the civil war. At that time British shipping and British lives were risked to convey vitally needed supplies to Spain's Mediterranean ports, in so doing running the double gauntlet of Spanish nationalist planes and submarines and the rigid discouragement of the British navy acting under the orders of the British "non-interventionist" cabinet.

Argentina is not invulnerable and neither the United States nor Great Britain are likely to forget this withholding of co-operation in this hour of urgent need. Normally the British Empire is Argentina's best customer and it is to the world's monetary centre—whether it be London or New York—that Argentina must continue to look to finance her expanding economy. But the brighter side of the picture is to be found in the statements concerning the probability of Great Britain, the United States and Canada being compelled to act on their own and draw up a programme for supplies to famine-threatened countries.

Exploitation of commercial advantage, temporary or permanent, has become almost sanctified by usage of long standing, but two considerations have to be kept in sight. One is the enormity of utilising this weapon to the detriment of a people with whom the user is not at war or open enmity and the other is that it has been proved a double-edged weapon. Argentina is a primary producer and must for several decades yet depend upon highly industrialised countries for many essential elements which make civilised life and economy possible. Her present attitude contrasts sharply with that of the United States which is cheerfully facing the necessity for belt-tightening in order to assist the peoples of less fortunate countries. As the Director-General of UNRRA said, those who fought the enemy deserve first consideration in the matter of food supplies. Spain afforded the Axis, including Japan, every possible aid short of war.

IF YOU WANT A SMOOTH VELVETY SHAVE USE AN

# Roosevelt Rejected 'Strike Japan First' Suggestion

## Stimson's Report to Pearl Harbour Committee

Washington, Mar. 26.—Former Secretary of War Henry S. Stimson has disclosed that President Roosevelt's "War Cabinet" discussed and rejected an American attack on the Japanese forces "without further warning."

Stimson recounted this in a statement sent to the Congressional committee investigating Japan's surprise blow on Dec. 7, 1941.

The committee made it public today.

Stimson related that on the morning of Friday, Nov. 11, 1941, he received information of Japanese movements along the Asiatic coast. They were of such a "formidable character" that he went to the White House.

Stimson's story continued: "The President suggested that there were three alternatives as my notes show: First: To do nothing.

"Second: To make something in the nature of an ultimatum setting a point beyond which we would fight, or,

"Third: To fight at once. I said that I felt that to do nothing was out of the question and the President agreed with me.

"As to the other two alternatives, the desirable thing to do from the point of view of our own tactics and safety was to take the initiative and attack without further warning.

"It is imperative that it be the offensive.

"It is always dangerous to wait to let the enemy make the first move.

"I was inclined to feel that the warning given in August by the President against further moves by the Japanese justified an attack without further warning, particularly as their new movement southward indicated that they were about to violate that warning.

### ROOSEVELT'S CABLE

"On the other hand, I realised that the situation could be made more clean cut from the point of view of public opinion if a further warning were given."

"The President suggested a special telegram from himself to the Emperor of Japan.

"After some more discussion it was decided that it could not be made public and that at the same time he would deliver a special message to Congress reporting on the danger and reporting what we would have to do if danger happened."

This programme was not followed.

Stimson explained that the late President went to Warm Springs, Georgia, for Thanksgiving, and that in the interim between his return and Dec. 1, it was learned that the Japanese were expected to land in Indo-China rather than go on into the Gulf of Siam.

"This apparently gave us a respite since it indicated that perhaps they were not going to invade Thailand at once," he said.

The same Friday Stimson said that the so-called "War Cabinet" met.

He also met Sumner Welles, Cordell Hull, the late Frank Knox, Admiral Stark and General George C. Marshall.

Stimson said that the session discussed the possible meaning of the Japanese

move—possibly an attack on the Philippines, the Dutch East Indies, Singapore or Rangoon.

"The possibility of an attack on Pearl Harbour was not discussed," he said.

Stimson added that all agreed that the Japanese expedition must not be allowed to land in the Gulf of Siam, and that if the Japanese forced their way into the Isthmus of Kra and if the British fought we would have to fight.

"We decided therefore that we could not just do nothing.

### ANOTHER WARNING

"On the other hand, we also decided that we could not attack without a further warning to Japan and we discussed the ways and form the warning should take.

Stimson's 38-page statement was accompanied by an additional thirty pages of memoranda in diary form of events during the days immediately preceding the outbreak of the war.

Because of ill health he was not called as a witness.

## U.S. Declares War On Famine

Washington.—The sober announcement made recently by President Harry S. Truman that American people must tighten their belts was generally received in like mood by a nation willing to contribute a share of its food supply to succour starving peoples in other lands. The United States are prepared to go on shorter rations in enlisting in what the President called "world-wide war against starvation."

The effect of the President's request will be a reduction in America's consumption of wheat and other grains, meat, fats and oils, cheese and evaporated milk so that increased supplies of these foodstuffs may be exported to the war-ravaged countries of Europe and Asia. The President also promised a return to national meat rationing if necessary to prevent starvation among ten to fifteen millions Allied and liberated persons.

### HUMANITARIAN URGENCY

The response of the great majority of the country to the President's statement—"I am sure the American people are in favour of carrying their share of the burden"—was immediate and affirmative. The main criticism came from the grain industry which said the United States would have no wheat shortage except for large export commitments and food processors and distributors who objected to the suddenness of the announcement.

Former Governor of Minnesota and Republican Party Leader Harold E. Stassen represented the general public response when he said "the humanitarian urgency of supplying a portion of our production and of our goods to peoples of the rest of the world is so vivid it does not need emphasis."

Anne O'Hare McCormick, editorial writer and foreign correspondent of the New York Times, told 500 representatives of the American Women's Organizations last Thursday that the world was still at war with starvation as the enemy. Her call for

## London Hotel For Ex-Internees

Towards the close of the year ended August, 1945, the committee of the Far Eastern Relief Fund was in consultation with the Secretary of State for the Colonies regarding assistance to returned civilian internees and members of the Volunteer Forces. The upshot of these negotiations, which were concluded after the end of the current year, was that the committee accepted the Secretary of State's invitation.

The committee offered to contribute £ for £ with the Association of British Malaya in the establishment of a hotel in London for returned internees visiting London on business.

Though the conclusion of the necessary arrangements was not completed within the financial year, it is interesting to record that the hotel has been established and is serving a most useful purpose.

### PETROLEUM BOARD TO BE DISSOLVED SOON

The Petroleum Board will be dissolved from the end of this month when all the former oil companies which operated here in prewar days will commence operations once again. The dissolution of the Petroleum Board will not affect the present petrol rationing as far as the public is concerned it is understood.

wholeheartedly with the President's plan.

The New York Herald-Tribune and the New York Times typified nationwide press and radio comment. The Herald-Tribune said "There has never been any doubt of American people's co-operation if they were convinced of the necessity of action such as this. There is no doubt about it now." The Times affirmed "we cannot well shrink from any sacrifice that will stay the march of hunger around the world, arrest disease, give hope to hopeless millions, prevent wild and violent chaos that will surely come if hunger wins victory. This is war too." The Times added, "what has to be done must be done just as on the beaches of Normandy and Okinawa."

To American people enlistment in "world war against mass starvation" meant they would eat less meat and buy less food. The nation's objective is to achieve relief goals which would feed 50,000,000 people on a daily diet of 2,000 calories or twice that number at the rate of 1,000 calories.

Behind the present mass hunger crisis and depletion in consumer goods available to peoples of the world was the fact that a high American production was as vital to the people in Europe and Asia as in America. Last week obstacles to maximum productivity in the United States were well on the way to solution.

### BRITISH MILITARY ADMINISTRATION (MALAYA)

#### REGION NO. 3 (PERAK)

The Rent and Charged Land (Restriction) Enactment 1940 and the Interpretation Proclamation.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 4 of the Rent and Charged Land (Restriction) Enactment 1940 and vested in him by section 3 of the Interpretation Proclamation, the Senior Civil Affairs Officer, Region No. 3, Perak, has appointed the following persons to constitute a Rent Assessment

## Stole Under 'Desperate Circumstances'

Kuala Lumpur.—Kok Kum Huat, a student in the Technical School, who stole \$400 from Paul Foo, a room-mate, because he needed the money desperately for his wife's confinement, was ordered by Major H. L. Wrigglesworth in the District Court here, to enter into a bond in the sum of \$100 in one surety to keep the peace and be of good behaviour for a period of one year.

Kok, who begged for leniency saying this was his first offence, which he committed under "desperate circumstances," was told by the President of the Court that he had committed a very serious offence, but in assuming that he did so whilst he was mentally upset, he would be given a lenient sentence.

### ACCUSED'S CONFESSION

Pleading guilty to the charge, Kok said "It was very mean of me to have taken the money, and I don't wish to excuse myself. At that time I was so desperate that I could not control my actions. Only after I had taken the money did I regret having abused the trust of a friend."

Kok added that he has since refunded \$250 to his friend; the rest of the money he spent on his wife who was in Singapore and was nearing her time of delivery. He wrote to his friend from Singapore promising to pay back the money he had taken when he returned to Kuala Lumpur and, he said the former had accepted his promise. Meantime, however, the case was reported to the police.

In asking that he be treated leniently, Kok remarked he has an aged mother, wife, child, and sister to support.

In reply to the President, complainant, Paul Foo, related that accused was a personal friend of his. Kok had approached him for a loan but he told him he was unable to spare any money. When the money was missing, he suspected accused. The latter, he said, has paid him back \$250 and promised

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### DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

#### HQ 3 Region (Perak)

Import Permits for all commodities from SIAM other than PADDY and RICE may be obtained from HQ 3 Region, Ipoh. Trade with SIAM is restricted to BARTER and exchange of Malayan dollars and Siamese ticals will not be free. Applications for Permits should state full details of the commodity to be exported for barter. Printed A.P. forms for import from SIAM on barter basis may be obtained from stations or direct from Messrs. Grenier Ltd., Ipoh.

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### NOTICE

We the undersigned Nam Heng and Low Bidor have taken over business and belonging of V.M. Kader Sahib as The Sundry and dealer, situated at No. 4 Road, Bidor w.e.f. 29th, 1946, and hereafter we responsible for any debt incurred by the said V.M. Kader Sahib.

SIGNED: By Lim Nan  
SIGNED: By Low Yen  
SIGNED: By V.M. Kader

### REPATRIATES

Repatriates from disembarking at should note that the Government of India have appointed Rao Sahib K. Kotliwalla Pillai, Protector of grants, 'Lake Side', 73 Namalee High Road, K Madras, as the Officer-in-Charge of the Reception Dispensary of Indian natives arriving in Madras.

The Officer-in-Charge should be contacted or embarking to make the necessary arrangements.



# Shortage Of Labour, Transport, Food, Supplies And Lawlessness....

## RETARD RUBBER INDUSTRY

Mr. S. B. Palmer, CBE, President of the United Planting Association of Malaya and Chairman of the Local Board of the Malayan Rubber Estate Owners' Co., in an informative talk on the present condition of the rubber industry, broadcast from Radio Kuala Lumpur last week, gave facts and figures to show how absurdly inadequate was the present price of 10d. per lb., "which was arranged without consultation with the industry."

He said the Malayan grower had "a solid case for an increased price," adding the present price to America is only a fraction above that of 1942 when estates were working at peak production as rubber was so urgently needed for war purposes.

"This year," said Mr. Palmer, "if 30 per cent. of our potential output is obtained, I think we may consider ourselves fortunate." Continuing, Palmer said:

That the low price is affecting the output from small holdings is apparent; in January only 21 per cent. of the small holdings in Perak were being tapped. Mr. F. D. Ascoli, the head of Dunlop Plantations Ltd., speaking in London, a few weeks ago, said "rehabilitation on the average estate is not likely to cost less than 3d. to 4d. per pound on the potential crop for a full year."

Even the synthetic propagandists have not, as far as I am aware, challenged Mr. Ascoli's figures. If the increased cost of 3d. to 4d. per pound on potential crop is accepted, I leave listeners to work out for themselves what the increased cost of production will be on actual crop which will not be more than 30-40 per cent. of potential this year.

During the past two months, I have inspected many thousands of acres, and have compared notes with planters from all parts of the country. It is generally agreed that the large majority of the trees now standing have suffered very little during the Japanese occupation whilst bark reserves have generally improved.

I was very impressed with the growth and appearance of large areas of rubber re-planted from 1937 onwards.

We have all wondered what the results of the neglect of these valuable young trees would be, and I was agreeably surprised to find that the trees were so well grown. But a very large proportion of the rubber re-planted in 1941 has been lost owing to neglect.

### RUBBER FIREWOOD

Large areas of rubber were cut down by the Japanese, in some cases to make the land available for foodstuffs, and in others, especially near the towns, the trees were used for firewood. Province Wellesley and parts of Kedah have been the worst sufferers, and some large estates have completely disappeared. However, we may consider ourselves fortunate, because the total loss over the whole of Malaya is not expected to exceed five per cent. of the total area under rubber before the invasion.

I have given you the more cheerful side of the picture; the other side is, I regret to say, very depressing. During the four years of the Japanese occupation, neglect was the order of the day, and little (if any) field work was done. The result is that the fields are overgrown, and lalang—that scourge of the agriculturist—is far too much in evidence for my peace of mind.

It is very difficult to give a rough estimate of the cost of cleaning up estates, but from what I have seen I would say it will vary from \$30 to \$150 an acre to restore fields to their prewar state. But this is only one item of the very heavy expenditure which has to be faced.

Machinery, lubricated only with palm or coconut oil, by

the Japanese, has been run to death, and then, when no longer usable, it was replaced by machinery removed from another estate: this elimination process was then repeated. The net result is, that on our return there were very few of the former large number of engines in working order. We are finding the greatest difficulty in replacing them.

### DISRUPTION OF LABOUR

Buildings generally are in an appalling state, as no upkeep work was undertaken for four years. Leaking roofs have caused deterioration of the structures, and, here again, very heavy expenditure will be necessary. And all this on ten-penny rubber!

By far the most serious aspect of the situation is the disruption of our labour forces. A very large number were removed for forced labour on the Siamese-Burma Death Railway—many of them alas, never to return. To those of us who have been in Malaya for the best part of our lives, the saddest moment of our return is when we first visit the estates where we and the labour forces have, so to speak, grown up together.

We look for the old faces; the faces of men and women who have served us faithfully for 25 or 30 years. We enquire for them and we are told they died on the Burma railway, or they died in the lines either from malnutrition, or from lack of medical services. On an estate of which I have been Manager for thirty years, I found to my sorrow that this tragic state of affairs existed, and it is, I regret to say, common to many estates throughout Malaya.

Apart from the labour shortage we are faced with four major problems in our efforts to rehabilitate the rubber industry. They are:—Transport, Supplies, Lawlessness and Food.

The first two are being overcome slowly but nevertheless surely. Supplies are now trickling in and, all being well, large quantities will be arriving in the near future.

### LAWLESSNESS

Another problem facing us, and which is very seriously hampering our efforts to bring estates into production, is the utter contempt for law and order which has prevailed throughout the country since the re-occupation. Daily we received reports of looting, robbery, petty thefts and intimidation.

On some estates the labour forces were afraid to go to work—having been threatened by gangs of hooligans with direct consequence should they disregard their orders to stop work. This outbreak of lawlessness was not confined to one or two districts, it was widespread.

I welcome the opportunity of telling the public of Malaya that, until law and order is once more restored, the rehabilitation of rubber and tin (the two industries upon which the prosperity of Malaya depends) is being very seriously retarded. The repercussions of this will be felt by all the inhabitants of the country.

Brigadier Newbould, in a broadcast a few weeks ago in the first of this series, stressed this point, and we

dation without the assistance of the public, who if they give information at all, usually give it too late for effective action to be taken. It is vital that information should be given at once.

### FOOD PROBLEM

The question of food supply is causing the planting community the greatest anxiety. The position is serious and we must face the fact squarely; an improvement in the near future cannot be anticipated. In such a serious crisis as this we would do well not to look on the bright side and indulge in wishful thinking, hoping against hope that more supplies will come in. This is just evading the issue, and for my part I would rather be unduly pessimistic and prepare for the worst.

It is only by adopting this attitude that we can bring home to the people of Malaya the extreme gravity of the position, which is common to most other parts of the world at the present time. Malaya must produce a great deal more food, and produce it quickly if famine is to be avoided. This is not a matter for the planting industry alone, it is the duty of everyone in Malaya to do his utmost to increase the food supply of the country.

I have endeavoured to give you a true picture of the many difficulties which we have to overcome before the rubber producing industry can be on its feet again. Some progress has already been made, but we must rely on the co-operation of almost every section of the community to restore the producing side of the industry to its former prosperity; and it is on this prosperity that the economic structure of Malaya so largely depends.

## Living Standard To Be Raised

Bradford, Mar. 24.—The Lord President of the Council, Mr. Herbert Morrison, said here today, "The people of Britain are going to raise their standard of life. We have a chance to do it now as we never had before."

He continued, "Roughly, we can value our necessary imports this year at £1,000,000,000. Our export trade is at present £750,000,000, but if we reach it, we shall not collect payment for all this year, and when we add all expense for relief and occupation overseas, it is certain we are going to face a deficit at the end of 1946."

Mr. Morrison further said, "We expect by the end of the year to have 1,200,000 men and women in the Services and 500,000 on supplies, and to have freed 7,000,000 people to join the drive for prosperity. By the end of the year, we hope to have something over 1,500,000 at work in export trades."—Reuter.

## Don't Buy What You Don't Want

Ipo.—Last week a small amount of biscuits was issued for sale to the public through certain retailers at 30 cents per pound. At the same time peas were also issued for sale at 50 cents a katty. Consequently there arose some misunderstanding.

Some retailers forced those who wished to buy biscuits to purchase peas as well. In some cases, a condition of sale of biscuits, (made by the shopkeepers), was that customers must buy two to five kattles of peas for a two-pound packet of biscuits.

Investigations by a Tribune reporter reveal that no condition of sale was ever made by any salesman of the SDU. The shopkeepers have no right whatsoever to make any condition of sale to the public of controlled or price regulated commodities.

Anyone who has been forced to buy peas against his or her will in order to purchase biscuits, should report to the Food Control Office.

It is understood that the price of peas has been reduced to 25 cents per katty.

## Colour Bar In "Swel British Hotels

London.—"Just to make things easy for Sir Stafford Cripps and his colleagues when they get to India," Ian Mackay wrote in his daily diary in the News Chronicle, "some of our fashionable hotel proprietors over here have been turning up their delicate noses at the horrible prospects of having to provide accommodation for the Indian cricket team which is going to tour England this summer."

"Now I should have thought

that if there was one hopeful ray of sunsh the sombre Indian see the moment it is these Indian playe first visiting team to here since Hitler se the balls in 1939.

"But you will scarce dit the people who are ing arrangements for reception and welfare had considerable diffic fixing them up in some owing to the fact tha of the swell establish still maintain the colo

"Fortunately one people on the job is Simpson who used to for Queensland in th days. He tells me the managed to fix the quite comfortably an they can rely on hav 'cracking good time w they go."

"But there were so ther nasty episodes bef thing was done.

"But Fred who has Australian contempt f and graces was just t for the job of this Reuter.

### U.S. WAR PROPERTY

## Review Of Sales Of Surplus Urged

Washington, Mar. 25.—An immediate review by Congress of all existing or contemplated programmes for transferring United States armaments to Britain, Russia or any other country was urged in a report to the Special Committee of the United States Senate on National Defence.

The Committee which has been investigating the disposal of United States surplus war property abroad said in its report: "The Government of the United Kingdom now has troops deployed in areas where there has recently been, or where there is threatened to be, open fighting—Indonesia, Greece, Palestine, Egypt and India."

"Whether the armaments which we have transferred to the British in the United Kingdom on lend-lease settlement are actually employed in such conflicts—either those which have occurred since Victory Day or those which may occur in the future—is not the real point.

"The fact that we have contributed to the total arms which the British Empire has is an important fact and it imposes on us a responsibility for the use of those arms which we cannot escape."—Reuter.

## Democrats Objecti

Chungking, Mar. 2 Chinese Democratic which is closely ass with the Communist today announced t would not participate coalition government National Assembly meet on May 5 if the mintang failed to abide agreements reached recent political consi conference.

The League also urg field teams be sent t northeast to organise minaries to the recent merger of Communis Government armies warned that any clash may cause widespres strike. This would me end of the unifying ment achieved by the States special envoy George Marshall.

HERE THEY COME! HISTORY HURLS FORTH ITS MOST HEROIC CHALLENGE!  
NOTE! REVISION OF THE STARTING TIMES

DAILY  
4  
SHOWS

**SUN CINEMA**  
PHONE BREWSTER ROAD, IPOH.

24 Hours of  
Glorious  
Entertainment

OUT-THRILLS ANYTHIN G YOU'VE EVER SEEN!

GALA  
Opening  
TODAY!

Errol  
FLYNN

Olivia  
DeHAVILLAND

IN THEIR BIGGEST HIT  
TOGETHER

**THEY DIED  
With Their  
BOOTS  
ON**

12.00

Noon

3.00-6.30

9.00 p. m.

A STORY OF  
UNDYING FAITH

NOTE

Owing to the unusual length of this Stupendous Production exceeding 13,000 ft. there is no supporting short.

BOOKED AT A GREAT EXPENSE  
COME EARLY

NO HALF PRICE FOR CHILDREN

**ISIS** Opens TODAY Till Thursday  
Daily at 3.00, 6.30 & 8.45 p.m.

IT'S A FUN-AND-MUSIC SENSATION! - GIRLS! - SONGS! - COMEDY AND MILITARY!  
GAY NEW GALS! GAY NEW LAUGHS! - NEW HIT SONGS!

**'SWING IT SOLDIER'**

with  
**FRANCES LANGFORD - KEN MURRAY**

PLAGUE IN MUKDEN  
Chungking, Mar. 25.—The



## Crime Must Stop Says Court President Youth Sentenced To Death

Ipoh: "The crime wave in Perak must, and will stop. And no mercy will be shown now. I know the local situation in Perak and I shall have no mercy as far as accused is concerned, whether or not the authorities in Kuala Lumpur will be moved to mercy is a matter which will be decided on appeal."

With these words Lt.-Col. J. G. Adams in the Perak Superior Court, yesterday, passed sentence of death on a young Chinese, Wong Sang, who was charged under the Public Order and Safety Proclamation.

The incident which led to the arrest of the accused was told by the prosecution witnesses as conducted by Major C. W. Shuttleworth.

Mustapha Khan, corporal of the 9th. Battery of the 7th. A/T Regiment, stationed in Trohoh, said that on March 9 he was on sentry duty at Gleannelly Estate between Siputeh and Parit. He had orders to stop and examine all cars. At 11 a.m. on the day in question, he stopped a car and ordered the occupants to get out. Three got out on the right and three on the left. They got together and except for the driver started walking towards Parit. At a distance of about 15 yards, witness

ordered them to come back, but instead, they pulled out their revolvers and fired on him. They all had pistols. Later they broke into two parties and ran off in different directions.

"We chased them for 150 yards. They turned round again and fired more shots at us. Then only did we open fire killing one and capturing the accused."

Witness was certain that the accused was among the gang who fired on the pursuing party.

Havildar Gurnawaz and four other sepoy corroborated the story of Mustapha Khan. Witness added that one of the pursued men threw a hand grenade at them, but fortunately it fell into the water and did not explode.

Electing to give evidence, the accused admitted being in the car but said that he only knew one of the occupants. At the road block, while getting out of the car, one of the occupants thrust a parcel covered with a handkerchief into his hands. He got down and ran together with his friend. After some time the handkerchief dropped off and he found that the parcel was a revolver. He immediately threw it away and hid himself among the bush. Accused denied firing on the sepoy, saying that he did not know how to use a revolver.

The two assessors were Messrs. Yin Thye Cheong and S. Retnam.

## Rimell Out Of Grand National

London, Mar. 26.—Champion jockey under National Hunt rules Fred Rimell will not ride again this season. An X-ray examination of his injury received when Poet Prince fell with him at Wincanton has revealed that the top of the vertebra at the base of the skull has been fractured. "He is in the Imperial Nursing Home at Cheltenham," said his wife. "They say he will have to be in a plastercast for 12 weeks so there will be no Grand National for him," she added. He was to have ridden Poet Flame (third favourite at 15 to 1 at the last callover, in the Grand National. He has ridden 53 winners this season, more than twice his nearest challenger. He was joint National Hunt champion jockey with H. Nicholson last year and was champion in 1939 and 1940.—Reuter.

## FREDDIE MILLS TO FIGHT FOR TITLE

London, Mar. 25.—Freddie Mills and Gus Lesnevich of America will fight for the lightweight championship of the world in London on May 14. Promoter Jack Selomons, announcing this, said that the venue had not yet been decided but it will be chosen from three places.—Reuter.

## A GENUINE ACTION - PACKED FIGHT

**FRANKIE WEBER** former Feather Champion of Malaya is one of the best in-fighters in the country. Had over 300 fights to his credit—fought all the best in the East. Two fisted tearaway fighter meeting for the first time.

**JAGIR SINGH** conqueror of Kid Pancho, the toughest and best Punjabi fighter in the Per. insula. According to reports this fighter is in "tip-top" form and is very confident of a win. "I can beat Frankie" says Jagir, "even at catch-weight and I will."

## BOXING

THURSDAY, 28TH. MARCH, 1946

**JUBILEE PARK**  
MAIN EVENT 10—2 MINS. ROUNDS

**FRANKIE WEBER**  
("TOY-BULLDOG" OF MALAYA)

## Representatives Of 123 Organisations Meet Pandit Nehru

As many as 123 organisations in Perak were represented at a reception held by the Indian, Chinese, Malay and Eurasian communities at the MPAJA ex-Service Comrades Association in Ipoh on Saturday night in honour of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

After those present were introduced to him, Pandit Nehru thanked them for the reception.

Several interesting questions were then addressed to Pandit Nehru by some of the representatives.

When asked by Mr. G.T. Chitumbalam, Editor of the Muvarchi, to clarify the recent withdrawal of the Indian Communist Party from the Congress, Pandit Nehru spoke at length on the history of the Indian Communist Party, and said that their withdrawal was the result of some disagreement over certain internal affairs.

During the past three or four months, he went on, there had been an outcry as to how Communists could be executive members of the Congress and at the same time preach a policy contrary to that of the Congress. Thus, it was decided that no person who did not accept the policy of the Congress could be elected as executives.

## OBJECTIONABLE ACTION

Referring to a question as to what he thought of the segregation of Indians in South Africa, Pandit Nehru emphatically deplored the action in South Africa. He said, Gen. Smut's action was highly objectionable, and there was going to be big trouble over this. He added that no one could remain under the British or any Empire in the world that tolerated such action as that of Gen. Smut's.

In reply to Mr. D.W. Basnayaka, of the Sinhalese Association of Perak, who asked whether India had a definite policy towards Ceylon and if so what Ceylon could expect of India, Nehru said that Ceylon was a grown up daughter of India and as such India was not going to interfere with the freedom of Ceylon.

He pointed out that Ceylon could not afford to cut herself away from India because she was such a small country and should be linked with India for all defence purposes. India on the other hand could do without Ceylon but had no such intention.

Miss Eng Ming Ching, Chairman of the Perak Communist Party, welcoming Pandit Nehru, referred to the close relations between Indians and Chinese.

## IPOH SAVING'S WEEK Special Concession in Admission Charges for 3 Days March 25/27

A ticket will entitle you for admission to the next higher class i.e. you buy a 3rd Class ticket to go to the 2nd Class. 2nd Class to 1st Class etc. Spend Less And Save More

## ODEON

(Former REX Theatre)  
OPENING TODAY  
3.00 — 6.30 — 9.00 p.m.

Universal Presents  
**CHARLES BOYER**  
**MARGARET SULLIVAN**  
in

## APPOINTMENT FOR LOVE

Margaret says:  
"I MAY BE A BAD WIFE"  
But Boyer Says:  
"I LIKE BAD WIVES"  
So... the brand new bride he got that day!... didn't come home that night!

## How To Kill Black Market

"Some people say that the 'black market' is inevitable, but I say that this is not so. A 'black market' is man-made and can only thrive, if supported by the people and killed only if boycotted by the people," said Col. V. T. Champion de Crespigny, SCAO, Perak in his address to a large crowd at the opening day of Ipoh Savings Week yesterday when a grand military display by the 96th Field Regiment of the Royal Devon Yeomanry was held on the Ipoh Club ground.

## SCAO Inaugurates Ipoh Savings Week

Four 25-pounder field guns of the RDY thrilled the crowd by firing salvoes, after which the members of the public were allowed to inspect the guns, wireless equipment, and last but not least, crowds of delighted children piled into jeeps and were taken for joy rides round the ground.

Capt. Shimwell was in charge of the display which was voted a great success.

## TWO OBJECTS

In the course of his address, Col. de Crespigny said, "This is Ipoh's Savings Week. It is the first of its kind in Malaya and some may be asking what we hope to achieve by running such a week. We are hoping to achieve two things, firstly to kill the black market, and secondly to ensure that when supplies do arrive in Malaya in greater quantities, the people have some money saved with which they can buy them. When supplies are short, unscrupulous traders try, and very often succeed, in acquiring rationed goods and selling them well above the controlled price. This

is the real 'black market'. Then there is the vicious 'grey market'; traders selling unrationed goods at prices anything up to ten times their pre-war value.

These "black" and "grey" markets could not exist if they were boycotted by the people. Supplies are now coming in, slowly perhaps but with brighter and better prospects for the near future. So your present mood must be one of patience. In England the people are still having to be patient. The end of the war did not mean an immediate return to pre-war conditions for them. In England rationing is severer than at any time during the war; families are still broken up and many service men still have two or three years to serve, thousands of miles away from home; thousands of people still want houses; it has been a very severe winter in England and coal is still rationed.

In England the National Savings Campaign is still continuing and people are saving with even greater determination because they know that their own security and the security of their country, the Empire and the

world depend on it. In Malaya we must enforce this enforced patience saving. A big rush and then a falling market nor give you a for the future. The for the week is "De Spending." Make a reality and ensure for yourselves and Mr. Lau Pak Kh also addressed the in Chinese on the value of savings.

## Today's E

In connection "Savings Week" an exhibition soccer will be played on the Club ground this evening 5.15 when the Royal Yeomanry meet the dian Division 51 Taiping.

Tomorrow, His the Sultan of Perak sent the prizes at a school athletic sportsing a 4.30 p.m. In of rain the sports held on Thursday m 9.30.

## ENGAGEMENT

The engagement nounced of Mr. I Kong, son of the Lim Seng Chiew Lim Seng Chiew of Miss Fong Poh Ch of Mr. Fong Kam I Ipoh.

## FOR SALE

KODAK 2 1/2 x 3 1/4 Fresh Kodak 116 Royal typewriter, Clubs in bag, Silver pocket watch, Leather case, Coleman portable stove. D. Thoms Gajah P.O.

## Echo Of Changkat Lobak Robbery

Bagan Serai.—A Malay was arrested by the local Police on Wednesday night at the Victory Amusement Park here, in connection with the recent gang robbery at Changkat Lobak.

It is recalled that 10 Malays armed with pistols and sticks held up a rubber dealer in 3rd Bukit Merah Road on Feb. 14, and before decamping with their booty they shot dead two persons and seriously injured three others.

Since then a number of arrests has been made by the Police. Further investigations are being made by the Police.

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Two Gigantic Armies In Mortal Combat at

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HERE COMES THE GREATEST "ROAD" SHOW OF 'EM ALL'  
SUCH SONGS! — SUCH GIRLS! — SUCH LAUGHS! — ALLAH BE PRAISED!  
— Paramount's —